

4179-126

Section I (Amendments to the Specification)

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 8, starting with “[a]s illustrated, the centrifuge tube 10 ...”) with the following replacement paragraph indicating amended text in underline format.

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As illustrated, the centrifuge tube 10 comprises an elongate cylindrical main body portion 12, having a closed distal end 14 and a proximal end 20 circumferentially bounding a proximal opening 18. The proximal end portion 20 features threading 22 on an upper surface portion thereof adjacent to the proximal opening 18, for mating with a complementarily threaded cap, to close the tube when holding contents to be centrifuged. As further illustrated, the body 12 has a substantially uniform diameter along the open proximal end 20. Furthermore, relative to a central longitudinal axis extending through the closed distal end 14 and the open proximal end 20, the open proximal end 20 has a cross-sectional area (in a direction perpendicular to the central axis) at least as large as the average cross-sectional area of the centrifuge tube 10.